



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **KEVIN SHELLEY**

KS03:034

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, June 5, 2003

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California Secretary of State Kevin Shelley Applauds Assembly Approval of Landmark Domestic Partnership Legislation

SAN FRANCISCO --- Secretary of State Kevin Shelley today praised members of the California State Assembly for voting to approve AB 205 (Goldberg) yesterday. The bill now moves to the State Senate for consideration.

"I commend my colleagues in the Assembly for approving AB 205," said Secretary of State Kevin Shelley. "This landmark legislation will move us closer to equal recognition and protection for all California families."

"As Secretary of State, it is my responsibility and privilege to maintain California's domestic partnership registry. I'm confident that if AB 205 is signed into law, we will see a dramatic jump in registration – providing more families with the rights, responsibilities and protections available under state law."

If signed into law, AB 205 will: grant domestic partners and their children the ability to make funeral arrangements, provide protection under community property and child custody laws, permit a domestic partner to sue for wrongful death, and allow surviving partners of firefighters and police officers eligibility for death benefits. Domestic partners would also become legally responsible for each other's debts.

To register a domestic partnership, or to learn more about the law and its provisions, please visit the Secretary of State's web site at www.ss.ca.gov.

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